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PITTSBURG, SUNDAY, DEC. 25, 1882.

## TWENTY-FOUR PAGES.

THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT.

The return of the Christmas season thisyear is rich with the accompaniments which tradition has surrounded it with as typical of its peculiar joys. The sharp weather, which meteorologists learnedly describe "as an anti-cyclone" with "an extraordinary piling up of the atmosphere to 31.10 inches," means in the older phraseology "a white Christmas," and that is typical of the festivity and good will of the cold and snowy holidays. The throngs in the great stores, the street cars | ties wherever possible. The Ohio River crowded with holiday buyers laden with packages, the wealth of Christmas cheer n markets and grocery stores, and above all the happy aspect of the people generally, all tend to the conclusion that this is to be an old-fashioned Christmas, full of wonder and delight to the little folk and of peace, content and good will to their

Such a season of festivity and enjoyment is always to be contemplated with satisfaction. The best reality in life is that pleasure which is born of content, and the mutual pleasures created by the manifestations of love and good will It is well for the world to lay we faintly realize the ideal of Christmas. 100 many stern realities in the world to ton." let the spirit of Christmas reign the whole them a greater sway in its constant life.

feast with a better appetite in the knowledge that organized and universal effort

With these thoughts on the high and PATCH takes pleasure in that old-fashioned

THE OPPORTUNITY IN WEST VIRGINIA The special correspondence from Camden-on-Gauley, West Virginia, which appears in this issue of THE DISPATCH, concludes the review of the splendid natural resources which can, with slight ef- and a half to two tons more of coal, or its fort, be made tributary to Pittsburg. In connection with the articles that have appeared before, it shows that to the south that there is a further factor. The quesof us there are rich and undeveloped materials for wealth, which it is peculiarly tion of three-quarters of a ton of coke the function of Pittsburg capital and Pittsburg enterprise to exploit.

A single point indicates one source of wealth that is especially important. In As long as that is the case the most econthat embryo city at the terminus of the Davis and Elkins system of railways, there is a lumber plant with a capacity of 50,000,000 feet per annum with a supply for 30 years. The diminution of the supply of lumber from the old sources has recently become an important matter to this and coal the other, although he does not rity, and indeed to this entire section. The opening up of a new district, with supplies of this magnitude at every point, is of the first importance, and premises the establishment of a great commercial

interest. But beyond the lumber supplies of West Virginia, its coal and fron fields are of vast Superior ore at \$3 15 per ton, Western import to Pittsburg. Connected with our interests they can be made to extend and against European competition strengthen our supremacy in the great staples. Forced to independent development, they may create a rivalry in which

The Dispatch. with all this natural wealth, it is plain that only stupid indifference can prevent our city from improving the opportunity to secure them as tributary to her enter-

WORK FOR THE CANAL.

THE DISPATCH publishes this morning a series of interviews with prominent business men of Gineinnati on the Ohio River and Lake Erie Canal, as furnished by a staff correspondent. The vigorous in-

dorsement of this project, and the enthusiasm evinced in support of improvements for the Oblo river and inland navigation in general, are evidence that Cincinnati is thoroughly alive to the advantages of these things and intends to do all it can toward securing them. And the Queen City can do much to aid in a grand cooperative rally on behalf of an undertaking that means much to the country as

a whole, and still more to Pittsburg in

particular. There is no doubt that the plan for the canal to Lake Erie is entirely practicable. A survey has been made by a State commission, able engineers have pledged their reputation to the feasibility of the work and have approximately estimated its cost. Since then improvements have been made in lock construction that will facilitate the enterprise. A private syndicate has applied for a charter for a canal from Lake Erie to Montreal and New York. Here is at once a recognition of the opening for safe and profitable investment in inland that would add to the value of the Ohio

River and Lake Erie Canal. There is more than enough traffic actually visible to guarantee a return for money invested in the waterway which would connect Pittsburg with the Lakes. Evidence or the insufficiency of railroad facilities is constantly forthcoming. Railroad extortion, insecurity and injustice in general are rapidly becoming a byword among shippers. The construction of inland waterways is the natural remedy for orious of the projects now before the pub-

It is a matter for grave regret that next month. With the interests of the city truly at heart, the Chamber cannot but work hard for this undertaking. This city must seize every opportunity for displaying its importance, and inproving its condition. It must make such opportuniand Lake Erie Canal deserves the ardent support of Pittsburg, and strong concerted action is all that is needed to secure this and other invaluable boons. Public spirit and public effort are the means to progress; public apathy necessitates retrogression.

A correspondent of the New York Times, writing from Minnesota, is the latest to endeavor to relocate and reform the iron and steel industry. He starts out with the assumption that the protective tariff has permitted pig iron manufacturers to locate their plants without reference to the toward our fellows. It is rightly typical greatest economy in production; conseof the Founder whose name the festival quently he avers that, when the tariff is bears that the truest happiness is to be reduced, the great iron and steel producfound by cultivating the controlling sen- ing plants will be driven from the interior timent of peace, contentment, good wi'l to the shores of the great lakes. He proand enjoyment of mutual and innocent ceeds to the effect that a ten of ore can be aid down at the lower lake ports for \$3 15 aside at stated periods the strife and labor | and on the shores of Lake Superior. Conof the year, in order to enjoy even though | sequently he believes that plants must be located on the shores of both lakes. The the temporary reign of its controlling in- vessels which carry ore to the lower lakes fluences, and to experience the happiness | will carry back coal to the upper lake that can exist when those influences are works, and thus, it is asserted, "our iron predominant. It may be that there are | masters could produce steel rails at \$12 per

The correspondent who thinks that the year round. But it is certain that the pig iron industry is not driven to seek the world will be none the worse if it can most favorable locations should study the take those influences to heart so as to give | regular reports of furnaces in and out of blast. When he discovers there that Besides the general prosperity which we about one-half of the furnace stacks in can perceive in the festivity of the season, the country are constantly idle, he will one of the most gratifying features of the | run against proof positive that when present Christmas is the good ground for | furnaces are not located where there is hope that the unprosperous have not been | the greatest economy of production and forgotten. While we are compelled to the | marketing, they are turned into dead capknowledge that there are many reduced | ital by the competition of those that are to poverty by influences the exact opposite | most favorably located. After he had of those which rule this season, there is perceived that fact he might further discompensation in the knowledge that the cover that the furnaces which are most spirit of peace and good will prevails suf- steadily in blast are not located on the ficiently to repair partially at least this lakes, nor are those which stand idle drawback. We can enjoy the Christmas by reason of their bad location all in the

interior mining districts. The fact that it takes about threehas been made to give those who have fourths of a ton of coke to smelt a ton of suffered by strife or been burdened by Lake Superior ore has often impressed misfortune an assurance that the love and | those of a superficial knowledge with the good will toward men of the holiday does | idea that blast furnaces should be located not omit them. Every human being should at the iron mines. One or two experihave some reason to rejoice in Christmas: ments have been founded on that idea-at and one of the greatest pleasures of the very large cost to the experimenters. The day is in the thought that especial effort syllogism, that as it costs less to transport has been made this year to realize that | three-quarters of a ton of coke one way than a ton of ore the other, therefore it will be cheaper to make pig iron on Lake sacred spirit that rules the day, The Dis- Superior than in Western Pennsylvania, sounds very conclusive. It would be if and hearty wish-A Merry Christmas to the bulky coke could be transported as cheaply as the heavier ore, and more than that, if pig iron were the final product. If those things had been true, the entire pig iron industry would have been located on Lake Superior years ago. But when these gentlemen discover

equivalent, to convert the pig iron into tion, then, is not that of the transportaagainst a ton of ore, but of transporting a ton of ore in preference to transporting from two to four tons of coke and coal omical location of iron or steel industry

ore. The correspondent of the Times is right ability of vessels to carry ore one way seem to be aware that the practice is already in operation. Its economy can be greatly increased when, by the construction of the ship canal, vessels can unload ore at Pittsburg and load with coal back again. When that is established, if the correspondent will furnish us with Lake against European competition.

will be near the fuel, rather than near the

The renewed appearance of cholers at

bring Pittsburg in close communication are claiming the right to bring shipleads, of infected immigrants to our shores, Tammany politicians are antagonizing a national quarantine for the sake of the new patronage; and it is even doubtful if the State politicians will supply the State Board of Health with the funds to make an effective fight against the spread of infection, if it should ever gain a foot-

It is getting to be time to have a square test made; whather the whole nation is to be subjected to a fatal pestilence, rather than diminish the profits of steamship companies or the perquisites of politi-

THE PRENCH TURMOUL

The turmoil of French politics has reached a point where it is impossible to predicate the future. The commentator can only recognize the elements which have brought the politics of France to this scandalous pass, and express the hope that the natural strength of the republic may enable it to throw off it s ailments.

The evil, of course, started with financial jobbery extending its con upting influences throughout politics, and bringing the press to the level of hired retainers But the outbreak first obtained active force through political jealousy. Its purpose was to kill off political rival t. The exposure once begun became so startling and far-reaching that instead of one politician or one faction being rained, the whole republic was besmirched. course the moment the republic is brought waterways, and the inception of a work | into discredit the old monarchist and inperialist hopes take a sudden revival. On one day the lost cause of the Bonapartists is agitated; on the next the longstanding claimant of the Bourbon succession is brought forward by his followers. Back of them all is the specter of Communism, with a greater force behind it than either of the other enemies of the

republic, only waiting the chance to set

its ungovernable elements into activity.

In the presence of such factors the friends of stable republican government this state of affairs. And the most merit- for France can only hope that she will pass the ordeal in safety. There lic is the Ohio River and Lake Erie Ship are some grounds for such hope in the Canal. Its construction would benefit all | latest developments. France has now en the industrial districts for miles on either | joyed twenty years of republican governside of its course. And in the long run it- ment, and, notwithstanding the scandals would be a benefit to the very railroads has been better governed than either which now scoff at and object to the pro- under the empire or the monarchy. Moreover, late years have shown an in creasing ability on the part of that vola Pittsburg's Chamber of Commerce is not | tile nation to settle its crises by constiturepresented on the National Board of tional means. This alone gives real rea-Trade which is to discuss this along with son for hoping for the best. It is above other important subjects at Washington all things to be desired that the Government may be purged, and justice done without a repetition of the terrible slaughter which drenghed Paris with

blood in the days of the Commune. One point is worth remembering as ar example to all nations. The French re public could not have been brought to any such pass as the present but for financial jobbery and political corruption. Other republics than France can find a profitable lesson in that fact.

AN IMPORTANT VINDICATION.

There is satisfaction as well as justice n giving prominence to the fact that a rigid inquiry into the methods pursued by General Booth, of the Salvation Army, in handling the funds put in his charge for relieving the poor of London, has resulted in a complete vindication of his integrity and efficiency. The plan proposed by the Salvation leader was so comprehensive and thorough in its purpose of turning the outcasts into useful and self-supporting men that it commanded strong support Intimations of loose methods of accounting for the funds were not surprising or even grave, as it was possible that an gelist might fall short of the standard of an accountant. But when the hints went the length of intimating actual misappropriation there was a decided necessity for investigation.

The investigation has been completed and the only ground for criticism is as to certain methods pursued in large building operations. There is no reflection whatever on either the integrity or efficiency of the head of the plan; and the intimations to that effect seem to have been emanations from the powers of darkness. This result will permit the good work to go on, which seems to promise more for the actual redemption of the dregs of society than any plan previously devised. It would have been illogical if the plan had been condemned, because personal mismanagement defeated its work. But there is no doubt that if the charges had proved well founded the work of the Salvation Army would have suffered a severe

check. The opposite is the case, bowever. The Salvation Army can proceed with its efforts, with its integrity unquestioned; and sincere men will recognize that, however wide its manifestations may appear, it is doing more to reach the fallen than any other existing agency.

MUCH TOO ONE-SIDED. While the Inter-State Commerce Com mission has taken a rather remarkable course in failing to attempt any enforcement of the anti-pooling clause of the law under which it is acting, there is a point at which it is impelled to draw the line. It strikes the present movement to emasculate that section a vital blow in the following sentence from its recent report: Until the law is made as strong as its framers intended, in the matter of fair and stable rates, equal treatment and suppression of all favoritism, it is idle to seek to protect carriers whose immunity under authoritative constructions of the law from restrictions intended by Congress seems one of the most remarkable facts in

current history." With this salient declaration on the official records, the movement to legalize pooling is put in its proper light. A law intended to protect the public has been practically brought to naught, and it is now proposed to pervert it to the degree of establishing a special privilege for the benefit of the very corporations that have defied and nullified it. And that special privilege is to be the maintenance of the most powerful and far-reaching combina tions of the exact class which national legislation by special statute has prohibited as obnoxious to public policy and

inimical to public interests. The Commission has been notably indifferent as to the enforcement of the fifth section of the act. But the assurance of the railroads in asking an amendment for their special interest after they have reached practical success in defeating the effort of the act to curb their unquestioned abuses is very suggestive, to say the least.

display of wealth in providing material for gormandizing and orgies, nor for the exhibition of extravagance in the purchase of their mass would disturb if not divide that leadership. All these things lying within easy reach of our city belong to its trade and industry, and can only be permitted to establish a separate existence by the atmost neglect on our part.

When it is the fact that less than a score of miles of new rallway is necessary to miles of new rallway is necessary to miles of new rallway is necessary to the interval of cholers at Hamburg and its steady persistence in Russian Poland, even in winter, warn this country that only the strictest vigilative proposes to manufacture that this characteristic of these days could that this characteristic of these days could be more prevalent throughout the year. Now is the time above all others when the surplus of the well-to-do ekes out the wants of the needy. And proportionately as this voluntary division of the good things of this of the new works when started. costly luxuries. It is a season of charity, a

world prevails, so does the number of thos good things increase, and the world becomes a more and more happy sphere for

THE PITTSBURG DISPATCH, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

THE world would be better than it is if none of childhood's illusions were shattered more painfully than is the belief in Santa Claus by the revelation as years go by that he is only the instrument of fond parents

MUSIC and Christmastide are intimately related. The music of church bells, the tinkling of aledgh bells, the singing of carols are all associated with the glads the season. There is music in the crisp orunch of the snow, there is music in the swish of the ice as the skate glides over its surface. There is music in the very air. Butthe best of all Christmas music is the cheerful sound of human voices in loving converse, and the merry languiter of childhood's happy innocence. May there be much of it and may it last long!

IT is typical of the blind intolerance o anti-Semiticism that Sara Bernhardt should have been subjected to mob violence in Odessa. Art at least is to be recognized as international, cosmopolitan, and without race distinction.

WORKMEN in Ohio agitating for the enforcement of a statute demanding bimonthly payments of wages are evidently in the right. A test case cannot be made too soon. If the law be upheid by the courts it should be enforced, and any doubts as to its constitutionality ongit to be set at rest one way or the other once for all. When labor organizes for the observance of law, public opinion is with it in all enthusiasm.

WHEN the laws of South Dakota are so

reformed as to forbid Sioux Falls from making divorce its leading industry, it will be time for New Orleans to relinquish prizefights and masquerades as its leading at-EXTERNAL weather is appropriate to all preconceived ideas of Christmas this year. But it is the sunshine and cheer of the heart

that are most essential to the season's

proper observance. And come rain, come

snow, come cloud, come shine warmth of heart will always insure a happy, joyful THERE is one never failing recipe for mirthful Christmas in every household. Let each make the happiness of others the first thought and the bauishment of all care is intallibly involved in the merriness of all.

THE series of Columbian postage stamps to be issued with the New Year will mark a new era in philately. There is no reason why the precedent of combining artistic work and historical instruction with useful-ness should not be followed in all future designs of the little letter-carriers.

ROTALIZATION of taxation and the framing of a road bill are matters intimately asted. An intelligent Legislature should be able and willing to do something satisactory in both at an early date.

PRESIDENT-ELECT CLEVELAND is no loubt reserving those much sought after portfolios as valentines for his friends, They are too big to be given away in a hurry, and he will hardly have time to make his choice from the would-be and won't-be recipients in time for the New Year.

An English society has been formed to put down gambling. The heir apparent to the British throne should be the first object of its solicitude.

Poor Europe! France's Christmas is spoilt by the impendence of Pansma scan-dals and Germans are too hard up to make their usual Christmas purchases. America is fortunate, and may good statesmanship always preserve the land's good fortune is the ardent wish of every patriot

EVEN a man of sixty, and deaf to boot can escape from the City Farm, The wonder is that the retreat over has any inmates.

electric cars would have been and always will be a seasonable gift. Theirs is not a happy lot in wintry weather. Passengers are forced to put up with discomfort, bus the traction companies ought at least to care

THE glad tidings of this sesson are of more importance to mankind than all current mundane news.

CABLE slots are breaking too many horses legs in this city. Constant inspection of the tracks ought to be rigorously insisted upon. And, at the same time, drivers cannot be too careful and horse owners should be particular about the shoeing o their beasts.

THIS is a progressive and changeable age. But an "old-fashioned" Christmas is

PROMINENT AND POPULAR.

FATHER MARTIN, the new General of the Jesuits, is visiting Dublin on business connected with the Jesuit order,

MISS GERTRUDE VANDERBILT dresses so plainly that her gowns would be called cheap and quiet, even if worn by a poor governess.

A NUN named Frulanda, who entered the Armenian monastary of St. Jacob, at Jerusalem, 98 years ago, died there recently at the reputed age of 115 years. EMPEROR WILLIAM has resolved that

the Crown Prince shall have a public school education and has selected the Royal Gymnasium at Kiel as the school. THE body of Miss Mary A. West, the

Illinois temperance lecturer who died recently in Japan, is on its way home for in terment. Appropriate ceremonies will be had in Chicago. SENATOR COCKRELL, who is spare and wiry, has an elder brother, recently elected to Congress, who is very broad of face and

heavily built. Both were Confederate brig adlers and the elder was the hero of the battle of Lone Jack. DR. ALEXANDER, the Bishop of Derry, whose Lenten sermons in this country this year are well remembered in Episcopal circles is about to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of his elevation to his present

office. Dr. Alexander is regarded by some

critics as the most eloquent prelate in Ire-

LADY FLORENCE DIXEY, who is an expert in the use of rod and rifle, and who has done her share in shooting big game, has provoked the wrath of her sporting compatriots by denouncing fox hunting and rabbit-coursing as wanton cruelty. She advocates the substitution of the anis-bag

CONAN DOYLE, the novelist, writes to the London Times suggesting that it would be a graceful act on the part of the British Government to offer three of the crack British bands, including the band of the Guards, to play at the World's Fair in Chicago, and a squadron of the Life Guards to take part in the opening procession.

A NEW GAS COMPANY.

Several Gentlemen to Invest \$100,000 i Johnstown.

JOHNSTOWN, PA., Dec. 24 .- [Special]. - A new gas company, known as the Manufacturing Gas Company of Johnstown, will shortly apply for a charter. The incorporators are Senator E. E. Robbins, C. R. Miller and C. B. Hamm, of Greensburg, and John Pendry, of this city. The capital stock is to be \$100,000.

LIVE NATIONAL TOPICS.

A Move to Protect American Railroads Against Canadian Discrimination-No Notice to Be Taken of Canada's Alleged Little Warships\_Other Matters of In

terest. WASHINGTON, Dec. 24. The President has called upon the executive departments for all information in their possession rela-tive to freight coming into the United States over the Canadian Pacific Railroad. Attention was directed to this subject by the President in his annual message to Congress, and since then the subject has been a live and interesting one in the Treasury Department. The unjust discrimination against United States railroads made by law-or rather by its construction-in favor of the Canadian Pacific Railroad, by means of the consular seal system, has long been a source of complaint at the Treasury Department. This law was passed in 1884, and its substance is incorporated in section 3102, revised statutes. Under this law freights are shipped from Canada to interior ports in the United States under the consular seal system. The United States Consul certifies that the mani'est is correct; that he has senied and closed the car, and that certification carries the freight through without inspection at the border, saving from one to two days' delay and the costs of reliandling the freights, etc. When the law passed the traffic was small. It is also contended at the Treasury Department that the 'reights entitled to the privileges of consular seal were oringinally confined to the products of Canada, and the traffic between 1855 and 1870 being thus limited, the United States Cousuis could and did give personal attention to inspecting the shipment of freight, making out the manifests and sealing the cars, as the law succifically directs they should do. But gradually the business has grown, and the law has been perverted, and now more goods having their origin in China and Japan are shipped over the Canadian Pacific for the United States than goods or products of Canada. Enjoying this superiority over American railroads the Canadian Pacific caused to be put into the Canadian Pacific discriminating duty of lower cent on all est is correct; that he has senled and closed

American railroads the Canadian Pacific caused to be put into the Canadian tariff a discriminating duty of 10 per cent on all coffee and tea imported into Canada from the United States. It is pointed out that as the traffic over the Canadian Pacific has become so great that it is impossible for United States Consuls to personally perform the cuties required of them under the provisions of the consular seal law, a due regard for the revenue would warrant the suspension of section 300 until such a time as Congress makes provision for its perfect enforcement. Should this be done it would, in the opinion of Treasury Department officials, put a stop to discrimination against American railroads and also be a retailatory measure against Canada for her uniriendliness of conduct toward us.

No Notice of Canada's Alleged Warships.

No Notice of Canada's Allered Warships, It is not probable that the Senate will take any action on the alleged intention of Great Britain to strengthen her armed force on the great lakes with war vessels under the pseudonym of revenue cutters. Senator Frye, of Maine, Chairman of the Committee on Commerce and a leading member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, a recognized authority in marine matters, and who is noted for his interest in affairs relating to noted for his interest in affairs relating to Canada and this country, will have much to say as to the policy of the United States in the matter of protection on the lakes, and his influence will have weight in deciding the matter, one way or the other. It is of interest, therefore, to know that Senator Frye places no credence whatever in the allegation that Great Britain is contemplating the structure of a strong armored force in the great lakes in violation of the agreement between the United States and Great Britain forbidding such action. He believes the present agitation of the matter, apropos of revenue cutters, which are being built in Canada, is "all poppy-cock."

Proclamation of the President.

Proclamation of the President. The President has issued a proclamation reserving for timber and fish culture pur poses the Island of Afognak, Alasks, and its adjacent rocks and territorial waters, in-cluding the Sea Lion Rocks and Sea Otter Island. The Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner of Fish and Fisheries, under the direction of the President, have investigated this subject and finding that he has the authority by law, strongly recommended that the action should be taken mended that the action should be taken. The Commissioner of Fish and Fisheries has selected Afognak Bay and A'ognak River Lake, and the tributaries thereof, with a mile of land from the shores of the river and lake, for the purpose of fish culture under the statute authorizing him to do so, and this is included in the proclamation of the President. The whole comprises a national reservation and all trespassers are required to remove therefrom. There is a cannery on the island that will have to be weented on the island that will have to be vacated but those of the former subjects of Russia there, a few in number, will be protected in whatever rights they may have under the ussian treaty.

Suppressing Rio Grande Lawlessness Secretary Elkins had a conference with General Schoffeld at the War Department to-lay with regard to the best method of effectually suppressing the apparently increasing lawlessness along the Rio Grande. Captain J. G. Bourke, Third Cavairy, who has been summoned from Texas for con-sultation on this subject, will probably reach here Monday night. No official reports in regard to these troubles have been received for the past two days.

Mr. Allison Will Be Home Soon. Senator Allison, Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, will be at his esk before the holiday recess is over. The Senator sailed from Europe on the Lahn, December 21, and is expected to reach this city next Wednesday. He will return to Europe in time to attend the adjourned meeting of the monetary conference in the

Indians Summoned to Washington. Secretary Noble to-day directed D. S. Hall, the Chairman of the Chippewa Comnission, to bring to Washington six chiefs and head men of the Mille Lac band of Chippewas, for the purpose of conferring with the President as to the necessity for their removal to the White Earth reservation.

No String on the Populists. "No political party has a morigage on the Populists," said Mr. Peffer, this morning, speaking of the situation in the West, and having in his mind the statements of the two parties relative to the election of United States Senators from the doubtful States, Mr. Peffer repudiated in strong terms the idea that any party had a right to advance the theory that the Populists were inclined in one direction or another. "In those States where we have the votes and

incidned in one direction or another. "In those States where we have the votes and can elect our Senators," continued Mr. Peffer, "we will do it, and ask no questions of anybody. There are, however, certain States in which we do not hold the power, and in which one or two of the two parties maintain the balance and have sufficient votes to combine with us in the election of a Senator. In such case we will make the compromise that will be most advantageous to'ns and that can be made without sacrificing any principle. We will combine upon the men who are nearest to us in the matter of legislation affecting our people. Naturally, three out of every four of the members of the Populists in the Western States are Republicans who have been drivon away from the party because it has been drifting toward Wall street rather than toward the people. We are in love with neither the Republicans nor Democrats, and when we combine, where we are compelled to pursue that course, it will be on the man who most nearly comes up to our standard of what the representative of the party in the United States Senate should be." Mr. Peffer intimated very strongly that the members of his party were not in the business of pulling the chestaut out of the fire for Democrats or Republicans, but they were arranging their plans to make as good a play as possible, with the sole object in view of bettering the plans to make as good a play as possible, with the sole object in view of bettering the political opportunities of the party and the principle for which they stood.

A BIG LOSS OF OIL

The Crescent Pipe Line Company Loses 2,000 Barrels of the Greasy Stuff. HUNTINGDON, Pa., Dec. 24 .- The Crescent Pipe Line Company, whose line of pipe through the lower end of this county is being put under ground, sustained a loss of about 2,000 barrels of oil to-day by the breaking of a section of their pipe on Blackleg In order to remove an obstructing portion of rock, the workmen set off a grand powder

biast which shattered a section of the pine line from which flowed a continuous stream of oil down the mountain side for six hours. The oil formed in a pool at the base where farmers and others living in the neighbor-hood gathered it up in buckets and barreis and earted it away. The Nicaragus Canal Next. St. Louis Republic. )

After France gets through with De Lessen & Co. is has permission to patronize the great canal cuterprise of our own Warner CRAMP HOPES FOR ALL CONTRACTS.

He Says the Report That the California Firm Got One Is Incorrect. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 24.—Chartes H. Cramp, President of the William Cramp & Sons' Ship and Engine Building Company, returned from Washington to-day, whither he had gone to consult with Secretary of the Navy Tracy regarding the docking of the cruiser New York and the progress of work on the war vessels now being completed at the company's yard nere. The dry dock at and December 28 was agreed upon as the day for the docking of the cruiser there. After

for the docking of the cruiser there. After her bottom has been thoroughly overhauled, preparations for her trial trip will be pushed forward with all possible speed.

The test of this latest addition to the navy will be made very early in the spring. Mr. Cramp said to-day, in speaking of contracts for the cruiser lows and the battleship Brooklyn, that dispatches from Washington stating that the Secretary of the Navy had expressed a desire to award the contract for building one of these shins to the Union Iron Works, of San Francisco, were unintentionally incorrect. "I am not worrying," said Mr. Cramp,

"for I am sure the contracts for both ships will be given to our firm according to law and right, and I am awaiting with calmness and right, and I am awaiting with enimness a formal notice from the Department to that effect. There has been no delay in awarding the contracts. It has been the invariable custom to lay all bids, before the law officer of the Navy Department, who investigates them, and the result of his labors is placed before the Secretary. This generally requires two weeks. We are not agitated concerning the matter, and neither does the Secretary appear to be worrying himself about it. Mr. Tracy, being a thorough lawyer, will know exactly what to do, and we are content to leave the matter in his hands. recontent to leave the matter in his hands.

M'MILLAN A GAS MAGNATE.

The Senator's Latest Purchase Said to Be for the Standard Company. DETROIT, Dec. 24.-Senator James G. Mc-Millan has added to his holdings of the stock of gas companies in this city, by the purchase of the Detroit Gas Works at a price said to be \$2,000,000. Recently the Senator purchased the Mutual Gas Works for \$1,500,000. It is said the two companies will be consolidated. It is also said the purchase of the gas companies is in the interest of the Standard Oil Company. The great monopoly has been for some time buying out gas companies in other cities, and it has large interests in Detroit.

The discovery of a practical method of manufacturing fuel gas at low cost has made its introduction at an early day very probably because of the dissatisfaction irequently caused by the low pressure of the natural gas. Senator McMillan is also interested in the Michigan Gas Company. will be consolidated. It is also said the pur-

CLEMENCEAU AND DERUULEDE.

THE latest style in French duels is the low-down safety."-Chicago Dispatch. FRENCH duelists as a class ought to be emarkable for longevity .- Wheeling Reg-

FORTUNATE that neither Clemenceau nor Deroulede carried the deadly unloaded pistol of every-day American annals.—New Our French friends should stop using

distols in their polite affairs of honor. It ndangers the lives of the spectators .- 8%. Duris like that of MM. Deronlede and demenceau do more to abolish dueling than

ny numitarian agitation can. They make s ridiculous. - Buffulo Express. CLEMENCEAU and Deroulede may be clever statesmen, but they are very poor marks-men. They are scarcely up to the Winkie

Ir might be worth while to say something about the Clemenceau-Deroulede duel if it were worth while to say anything about it But it isn's .- Harrisburg Patriot. THE bloodless duel in Paris softens the rench situation. There must be a decline

standard.—Baltimore American.

and fall in the temperature and the excitement. - Brooklyn standard Union. THE French duel remains bloodless and frequent. There is room for a suspicion that the weapons intended for French duels are especially manufactured with a view to

securing safety. - Washington Star. THE French duel has its uses. After the burlesque performance between Clemenceau and Deroulede, nobody in or out of Paris will be prepared to admit that the politica

situation is serious,-New York Tribune. WHAT a miserable farce the whole ness is! At five, seven or nine pages they might have had all the satisfaction they wanted. They should agree on that distance next time or stay off the field .-- Philadelphi

Inquirer. From the Stable to the Church. Detroit Johrnal. 1 Someone remarks upon the frequent changing of abandoned city churches into

gests that Christian worship began in stable. Good in One Way.

Philadelphia Times, 1 Why should the opponents of vivisection waste all their sympathy on the dogs. Look at the number of fleas that as a necessary consequence starve to death.

stables. The approaching Christmas sug

DEATHS HERE AND ELNEWHERE

J. H. Crozier. J. H. Crozier, long and favorably known as the agent of the Union News Company and Dis-PATCH at Oil City, died at his residence yesterds PATCH at Oil City, died at his residence yesterday at 5:30 P. M. Mr. Crozier had been connected with the Union News Commany for many years, and his large circle of avquaintasiees in Chiefmant, Pittsburg and Baltimore, as well as at vill City and vicinity, will regret to learn of his demise. By close attention to business and overwork his health gave way some mouths since, and in spite of the henefit he hoped to receive from a trip to hot Springs and El Paso, he roturned home last week to breathe his last, surrounded by his grief-stricken family.

General Frederick T. Dent. General Frederick T. Dent, the diinguished Union soldier and brother-in-law of U. S. Grant, died Friday in Denver. He will be s. Grant, died Friday in Denver. He will be buried in the Military Cemetery at Ft. Leavenworth, Kan. General Dent nad been in Denver for the past four years, enjoying a peaceful oid age after a career of energy and movement. He was born in Missouti in 1830, received an appointment to West Point from that State and served with honor in the Mexican and Civil wars. In the late war he served on the sind of General Grant with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. In March, 1886, he was made Brevet Brigadier General.

Bratfisch, Rudolph's Cabman, Bratfisch, the noted Vienna cabman, who trove Crown Prince Rudolph, of Austria, to the

drove Crown Prince Rudolph, of Austria, to the chateau at Melring the night the Prince met with his tragic death, died yestorday of apoplexy. He kept secluded for a long time after the death of the Prince, not being permitted to live in Vienna. As the memory of the scandal faded, however, he was allowed to return to the Austrian capital, and he was not again heatd of publicly until his death was amounced. Josiah M. Fiske, Financier. Josiah M. Fiske dropped dead while entering the American Exchange National Bank, in New York, Friday. Mr. Fiske had been a director of the bank for 46 years in continuous director of the bank of we years in continuous service, being the dean of the board by many years. He had come down town to attend a directors meeting. Mr. Fiske was passing the paying teller window when, without a word, he staggered an fell forward. He was unconscious and appeare to be dead. The probable cause was heart disease

John Baker, Revenue Service. John Baker, of the United States Revenue Marine Service, commanding the cutter Seward on the Guif station, died Friday at Pass Christian, Mila., of peritonitis, aged 62 years. He was a native of Salem, Mass., and had been in the service of the Government since 1801. His remains will be sent to Salem.

Obituary Notes. HON. CHARLES RICHARDSON MILES died on, S. C., Friday. MRS. ELIZABETH SCHUCKERS died Friday night at Massilion, aged 74. She was the widowed mother of J. M. Schuckers, eashier of the First National Bank of that town.

GEORGE B. NEAL, a weil known Parkersburg itizen, dropped dead yesterday morning from sart disease. He lived there all his life, and has coupled many prominent positions. MBs. CAPTAIN N. M. WILSON, of Homestead whose husband is a member-elect from the Sixth Legislative district, died yesterday morning. The purisi will take place Monday afternoon at Eliza-

COLONEL SAMUEL MOSBY, State Senator, consin of the famous General Mosby, and a colonel in the Confederate army, died at Linn, Mo., yesterday, For 33 years he has been prominent in the Demo-eratic politics of Missouri. WILLIS WRAYER, the young man at Canton, O., who was injured by the accidental discharge of his gun while out hunting, has died of his injuries, sie was a nember of a prominent family and numbered his friends in Cauton by the hundred. A VISIT TO VERSAILLES.

(WRITTEN POR THE DISPATCH.)

AFTER a month of wet weather, w concluded to wait no longer for a fair day to visit Versailles, test the snows should overlap the rains, so on Tuesday we set forth without waiting to see what the morning promised. We went in a meek little train from the Gare St. Lazare, Paris, To our delight the sun came out warm and bright as September, and dogs and barethe company's yard nere. The dry dock at the League Island Navy has been repaired, flowed the streets to bask in it, after being cooped up by careful housekeepers in dread of croup and muddy floors. The fortifications were passed and the train shot through a couple of long, dark tunnels, across stretch of tiny mark-t gardens where small vegetables were being "raised by hand" under glass globes, and out over a high bridge above a winding country road bordered with poplars and hedges. A small cometery twinkled by, looking like some glass exposition, or the North Pole done in atum. Thickly strewn upon every grave and hoisted upon the crosses at their heads were hideous funeral wreaths of flowers, made of black, purple and crystal beads; here and there was a stiff wreath of dyed immortelies,

out not a single natural blossom to be seen

The effect to American eyes is ghastly and horrifying. Their very durability makes

them more unendurable. It is as much as to say: "I've mourned once and for ail, ac-

ording to the fashion, and now I shan't

need to think of it again. These things'll Madame De Maintenon's Villa. IT was a pleasant journey, so we arrived at Versailles in a mood to do it thoroughy and took cabs to the Grand Trianon. The glassy waxed floors of Madame de Maintenon's beautiful villa look as if no toot had trodden there since her time, and much of the ancient furniture remains, carefully guarded from profanc touch. In the Salon des Giaces stands a magnificent round table which might almost have served King Arthur and his knights. The great siab, nine teet in diameter, is made of a single piece of oak; such kings of the forest

to longer exist in France. We stopped to admire a beautiful marble group in the Grande Vestibule, representing rance and Italy exchanging the kiss of peace. It was a gift, some 30 years ago, from he ladies of Milan to Eugenie, then Empress of the French. Whether by chance or by design, the resemblance of the statelier statue to the ill-starred Empress ierself is very marked.

The Playthings of a Queen. THE Petit Trianon, where Marie Antoinette spent her happiest days, stands near by with her beloved dairy on the margin of a ittle lake. Outside the dairy, under a thatched shed, are the stone benches where he lords and ladies of her court used to sit and drink milk and pose as shepherds and milkmaids, with all the picturesque improbability Boucher has immortalized on screens

The lovely gardens and walks were almost deserted notwithstanding the beauty of this mild November day. The dead leaves were still falling and rustled pleasantly under our feet as we walked through the grass and picked some late bluebells and butteroups. with nobody to "shoo" us back to the road. The leaves were drifted thick, too, in the

quiet little most around the Temple de l'Amour, the open-air theater where Marie Antoinette and her ladies acted plays. Some workmen were repairing the little time-stained marble temple, and their hammers and the twittering of the sparrows were the only sounds that broke the silence of the woods. It was even loneller about the tiny mill and "hamlet," with their painted imitations of aucient stucco, fallen away to show the painted pretense of ricks. It is most pathetic to come upon the elaborate simplicity of these pretty toys of a Queen, which have survived two monarchies and two empires, and which three

in pity of their harmless triviality. A Costly and Almost Endless Work. THE day was dry and pleasant, but moisture dripped from the beds of moss that covered the thatched roofs, and the grass, through which we strolled toward the gardens and

republics have spared, and even preserved,

the palace of Versailles, was very wet.

The dank, swampy ooze of the soil still makes itself seen through all the labor that countless hands have spent upon it through ere than two centuries It is easy to believe that

A million peasants starved to build Versatiles;

to diain froggy marshes, plant forests of alien trees, build a palace a quarter of a mile long, and cram it with all that was rare and costly; to erect magnificent fourtains, and to construct aqueducts to supply them, which (on account of unwholesome nature of the destroyed a greater number of the unlucky oldiers who were compelled to perform than many a battle that has decided the fate

of nations.

There was something really uncanny in the sight of the vast and elaborate gardens, adorned with the colossal statues and fountains, the interminable broad walks, and the immense flight of marble steps leading up to a palace which has been innabited by 10 000 naonie at a time: all in perfect renair apparently as void of life as the mountains the moon. It was like a scene from the leeping Beauty, or Hawthorne's new Adam

and Eve, exploring the empty city. Some of the Striking Pictures. Ir would be hopeless to attempt a descripion of the endless galleries of pictures, To me, the most interesting of all was one of Napoleon as First Consul; a thin, keen, handsome face, with a look of quiet control. as if he felt the reins in his hands, and the power to hold them. I believe it is not a particularly fine thing from an artistic point of view, but, as a bit of historical enlightenment. I admire and value it more than Meissonier's "1807," or any of the multitude of paintings of the Emperor's countless bat-

tles and triumphs. Another picture, historically enlightening (to Americans, at least) represents "le Comte Rochambeau and le General Washington giving the final orders at the battle d'Yorcktown"-where Cornwallis surrendered. The title is a little misleading, for the chubby little Count Rochambeau is giving the final orders all by himself, while General Washington (life sized, though very French looking) stands meekly behind him, rebuking, with a gesture, an eager young officer who is evidently appealing to him for instructions. "Don't you see that this gentleman knows much more about such matters than I do?-Allez-vous en, foolish boy!" .

Now, one doesn't mind if the French are a trifle vainglorious over their Henry Navarre and Napoleon; but that they should reach out and appropriate the American Revolution to add to their hall of triumphs, it seems like carrying the thing too far. Full of Historic Suggestion.

Ir was 4 o'clock when we, together with several hundred others whom the fine atternoon had tempted to Versailles, were gently headed to the doors by the guard ians, and we were astounded to find the rain falling fast. One can never depend for an hour upon Parisian weather, but we con-cluded to ride back to Paris upon the top of a buss; and taking a last look at the little Swiss lake, which Madame, our guide and companion on this interesting trip, said her grandfather had seen red with the blood of the King's guards whose bodies were flung in-toit, after the heads of many had been cut off and set upon pikes, we walked 'slowly down to the huge iron gates that open upon the Place d'Armes.

It was a pleasant ride of two hours along the broad avenue from Versailles to Paris the rain stopped, and the sun set golden red. Old houses along the road bore upon their facades the fading inscription: "Liberte, Egalite, Fraternite," and it was all most interesting and picturesque. But what seemed most real after all, was the fact that it was by this same long Avenue de Paris-a seven hours' via Dolorosa to them-that the King and Queen, and the little dauphin, who was crying with hunger, surrounded by a savage mob bearing the heads of their defenders upon pikes, returned prisoners to the capital, which none of them left alive.
Paris, Dec. 16. A Pittsburg Gint.

Its Persistence Is Suspicious. Boston Herald.

If Tammany doesn't stop saying it doesn' want anything from President Cleveland, some people will begin to doubs is,

CURIOUS CONDENSATIONS. -East India gives as gutta percha.

-Seven hundred Columbus biographies are extant. -The fly honeysuckle came from South

Africa in 1752. -New York City lays claim to over 500

women bicycle riders. -In China every village has its theater every city has several.

-Catherine de Medici imported muffs into France from Italy. -Pork was the most highly esteemed

flesh at the Roman table. -The telephone has been known in India for thousands of years.

-Many suits of armor worn in the fourteenth century weighed 275 pounds each. -Roman ladies dress their locks in

-Sparkling champagne was the discovery of Petrus Perignon, a monk, who died

-The shield of Hector, when slung at his back in walking, sovered the body from neck to heel. -Four-fifths of the engines now working

in the world have been constructed during the last 25 years.

fifteenth century were fried leeches and

-During last year the number of electric railways increased from 385 to 469, the capital stock from \$155,087,173 to \$205,870,000, and the mileage from 3,916 to 5,446 milea.

in South Dakota, and the farmers of that State have been compelled to resort to primitive fuel in the shape of twisted hay.

-The stewards of St. Nicholas Society, New York, have an annual "testing dinner" prior to each regular annual dinner in order to decide upon the caterer whom the society aball patronize.

-Four thousand new postoffices were established during the past year, and 557,545 unmailable letters poured in the boxes, 32,-612 of them wholly without any outside sign, symbol or address -Our boldest bridge jumpers were out-

-In England, France, Germany and Belgium the number of births per thousand of population is steadily falling. The rate of decrease is slower in some of these coun-tries, but is marked in all.

-All the gold in the world (not counting that still in a virgin state) would not make a block of more than 613 onbie yards. A cube of the above dimensions could be put in a room 24 feet each way. -Dr. Richardson, an English physician,

that the men who are employed in the Paris sewers are as healthy as the average person, and no other 800 men in that city are so free -A new genus and species of blind cave salamander is reported by Mr. L. Steinger in the "Proceedings of the United States Na-

Milan. American machinery only is employed in its two central stations. A curious feature of the system of distribution is that the wires, instead of being carried on poles, are suspended from the brackets under the eaves of the houses. -The State of Oregon has 36 nurseries

-The best lighted city in Europe is

overing 1,00 acres and containing about 9,000,000 young trees, and orchardists have upward of 100,000 acres of growing trees. One-inst of this acreage is in prunes, one-fourth in apples, one-tests in apples, and the remainder in various kinds of fruits. -It is reported that the telephone has been put to a new use at San Leandro, Cal. According to the authority, a man who is

-The popular idea that water is purified by freezing has been again disproved by recent careful experiments, which show that the average amount of impurity retained by the ice is 24.2 per cent of organic matter and 21.2 per cent of inorganic matter. As organic matter is the more objectionable of

... The waters of the oceans and seas of our globe hold not less than 60,000,000,000,000,-000 tons of salt in suspension. If these figares are correct and the ocean should be enures are correct and the occan should be en-tirely dried up, there would be a deposit of salt 450 deep over every foot of the great basin. If taken out and spread upon what is now dry land it would give us a salt cover-ing nearly 1,500 feet thick.

and 0.48 per cent of fat, while the "hunger-brod" contains 11.79 per cent of albumen and 3.79 of fat. -The severity of British justice was well

jury, and a new one was impanelled. -In Shakespeare's day there was no scenery used on the stage; the only decorations were tapestries and curtains. In those days the actors and actresses had to do more than morely repeat their lines; they had to supply the scenic effect—what little there was—as

-The professors in the colleges of Spain are miserably underpaid, often receiving no more than \$200 per year. They endeavor to make a smail profit out of their textbooks, each requiring his own book to be used. These books are frequently in manuscript, or, if printed, are sold at unusual prices. The students, also poor, resort in consequence to second-hand shows and the annual full, where a specialty is made of collegiate textbooks.

HERE'S TO YOU. A Christmas rich and merry.

A WASTE. (!She was a charitably inclined woman. Her daily work consisted in going around to the different merchants and families soliciting aid for the poor. The other day she called on a Grant street

ily near the Point, and not a lump of it reached

"Was it stolen?" No: it met with an accident. It got sway from the yard all right, and started down Diamond alley, passed Smithfield street in good condition, and a little while after turned into Wood; went on down past Fourth, Third, Second and First aremes, and I'll be hanged, if it didn't turn into

> Would get on Christmas morn, I knew 'twould be some jewelery, My person to adorn.

Yet when received surprised was I To all I must confess; I found the price a hundred was, And I expected less.

eight different styles with numberiess vari-

-Among the French dainties of the

-The Union Pacific has 15 long and a great number of short tunnels, the aggregate length being 6,600 feet.

-It is reported that there is a coal famine

-A hay saver, consisting of a three-sided device which enables the horse to insert his head into the manger, but does not permit any lateral movement of it, is a late inven-

Austrian Knight Harras, who survived a leap from the top of a cliff to the valley of Zohoppan river, a vertical distance of

done by a Sam Patch of the middle ages, the

who has investigated the matter, states

tional Museum." The discovery of such an animal in North America is regarded by the writer as a most important and event.

covering 1,576 acres and containing about

afflicted with leprosy was placed in a cabin away from the hospital. A friend of his had a telephone put in the cabin and connected with the hospital, thus enabling the patient to converse with his friends and acquains-

the two, the case is worse than was formerly

-Prof. Virchow has analyzed "hungerbrod," the bread eaten by the peasantry in the famine-stricken districts of Russia, and finds that it is much more nutritious than the rye bread made in Germany. The latter, ccording to an analysis of bread taked in terlin, contains but 6.04 per cent of albumen

illustrated at Northampton the other day, where a trial for murder was in progress. The jury having been permitted to partake of a lunch in their room, one of their num-ber took this opportunity to step out and post a letter. The Judge, hearing of this, promptly gave the offending juror a strong lecture and fined him \$250. He dismissed the

well as the action of the performance. They had no races with real horses and a moving panorame, nor any saw mill, with a real buzz saw and real logs, to fall back upon.

ORIGINAL AND JOCOSE.

With my glass filled up to the very brim, With good old Tom and Jerry, I drink and wish you every one,

coul dealer, and asked for Christmas coal for sweet coat desice, and asked for Christinas coat for swoods, charity's sake,
"Madam," said the dealer, "I am very sorry, but I think I have done my share for one year, at least, though, to be sure, It did but little good.
This morning I sent a 50-bushel load to a poor fam-

Water and run into the river, ' SURPRISID. I kind of knew what presents I